

Now is NOT the time to back away from competition. If anything, now is the time to FORCE the RBOCs and LECs to truly operate an "essential facility" instead of killing their competition with slow response to access requests and burying them in paperwork and reschedules! Force them to truly accommodate other ISP firms that wish to purchase access from them. This wholesale provisioning will stimulate competition and be of benefit to the consumers. To not do so would cripple the '96 Telecom Act. Chairman Powell: Please do not sell out to BIG BUSINESS, at the expense of competition and the small businesses of our country.